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THE TIMES COMPANY,  
WALTER STILSON HUTCHINS, President.

**Circulation Statement.**  
The circulation of The Times for the week ended February 2, 1901, was as follows:

Sunday, January 27	32,913
Monday, January 28	30,578
Tuesday, January 29	30,125
Wednesday, January 30	30,207
Thursday, January 31	30,418
Friday, February 1	30,501
Saturday, February 2	30,929
Total	200,765
Daily average (Sunday, 22,900, excepted)	30,770

#### The Spendthrift Congress.

When Mr. McKinley was elected President of the United States in 1896, everybody knew as a matter of course that in the way of wasteful legislation and looting for individual or corporate contributors the country would be made to pay dearly for the result. All that was lost sight of soon after in the excitement of the Spanish war, and the paralysis which seized the country when it saw the man in the White House in his own right adjusting the interests of principals and agents in the army and navy contracts, including ships, camps, rotten beef, tinned carboys, shoes, and coffins.

The strenuous days of war are behind us, the time and some new arts of peace are with us. One of those arts is exemplified in the ability of a single session of Congress to get away with nearly if not quite a billion dollars. Only a little time ago the nation was almost horrified at the accounts of Congressmen who appropriated a billion, half of which represented the unusual expenditures due to war. But now the people are called upon to view an appropriation amounting to the same amount in a single session.

Aside from the unnecessary or corrupt purposes for which this enormous burden is loaded upon the necks of the masses, the record shows that we are rapidly creating a military tax which already exceeds that of any other power, and for which we have to show only a small, poorly-paid, and unimpaired establishment. In the Senate Thursday Mr. Hale of Maine was obliged to admit that our military budget for this year—including army, navy, and pensions—would amount to four hundred million dollars, or twice the same budget in any European State.

Politics and corruption combined serve to swell the pension list of the civil war to a great deal faster than its heroes do off. They were a noble army, and forty years ago they did the Republic honorable and distinguished service. Many were killed, and, because it was a great army, many survived; but hardly enough, one would think, to account for the numbers who, at every session of Congress, are enlisted in the legion of new pensioners.

At the present rate of progress the year 1940 will dawn before the ranks of the "G. A. R." will be much reduced. The American people should not grudge help to their old soldiers, but while providing for them necessarily some consideration should be given to the economy in other directions that such colossal fixed charges ought to impose upon our legislators.

Are they minded to saving by these claims upon the nation's bounty? Well, not that we can see. Already Mr. McKinley's urgent recommendation, in his final dispatch message, has been disregarded completely, or regarded as the joke some unkind persons thought it when transmitted; and the waste of public funds has been more rampant in the present than in any preceding Congress.

Senator Allison has conceded that the regular appropriations of the year will be more than seven hundred million dollars, and may reach eight hundred millions. This alarming total includes the River and Harbor bill, sixty per cent of which is redundant, but does not cover the annual Treasury loss which would result from the consummation of the Transportation Trust's subsidy steal.

The citizens of this Union have had a fair example of what government by the Republican party involves, in the Congress which is just expiring. They have also decreed another like it, and one which promises to be even more extravagant, profligate, and contemptuous of law and the Constitution—if that be possible. But the question, nevertheless, arises: Will the country always stand by such a thing? Will the voters forever keep in power a combination of monopolists and robbers? It is a grave question which can find its answer only in the future, and at best not until the expiration of four more years, practically, of Hanna.

**The Case of Cray Kansas.**  
We are sorry for the State of Kansas, or rather for the same minority in the Commonwealth who are worth sympathy in the loss of business, enterprise, and progress which the State will sustain through the current insane and lawless outbreak of its female prohibitionists. The climax of public infamy was reached when the two houses of the State Legislature consented to be addressed and scolded by the inebriate and order-defying leader of the crusade.

What is the country to think of Kansas? Is it altogether composed of Jerry Simpsons and Whisker Peppers and Leases and Sheldons? If it be, what is the use in maintaining lunatic asylums elsewhere? Why not let Kansas aside as a reservation for cranks and maniacs?

As we ventured to remark the other day, there is something crooked and uneasy about the population of Kansas which can only be accounted for upon the ground of heredity. In the fifties of the preceding century the wide range of prairie was traversed principally by the Leavenworth trail. The opulent and house settlements that now compete with its prairie dog villages for possession of eligible sites, and the towns and hamlets that are seen from Pullman cars, were hardly by evidence. Topeka was there, a frontier camp. Leavenworth was an army post, and there must have been a place called Oswatimie, because it was at a point of that name that old John Brown took summary vengeance upon a lot of persons who favored slavery. A man on the other side, Quantrell, did yeoman service in depriving the world of citizens who objected to the system of human

bondage. Both of the patriots in question were active in their trust and took many scalps, and Kansas filled up with their respective followers—all good, honest people, vigorous and resourceful, and never tardy in disemboweling a fellow-countryman of the opposite political persuasion.

The occupation of the grasshopper region by these energetic but sanguinary pioneers has had its necessary consequences. As they grew tired of fighting one another they settled down and married. We are infinitely sorry that they did this, because the Mary Ellens, the Jerrys, the Sheldons, Whiskers, and Nations of the present day are the logical and inevitable result. But what can be done? Chinese immigration might improve the stock; a Mexican admixture would be an improvement, and Indians, if generally admitted to a higher social life of the community, would be an advantage. The sociological difficulty is that Kansas is locally a sovereign State, and one the lunatic inhabitants of which are firmly convinced that they, and only they, among the denizens of the continent, are sane. We have no remedy to offer, unless it be a hard-wire fence and a suspension of all communication with the inmates of the crank territory.

#### Concerning Celestial Wisdom.

A free Government like ours—as it once was—should not be above taking advice from competent authority upon any matter of importance. In fact it is not, as witness the Porto Rican Tariff bill. That measure was never thought of until it was demanded by a combination of four of our most sacred trusts. On other occasions the present Administration has almost gone out of its way to accept the counsel of outsiders. It did so in the matter of the retreat from Pekin, and all through the course of the executive war in China. Mr. Wu, the Chinese Minister to America, was, to all intents and purposes, our Secretary of State for Asiatic Affairs.

It is of Mr. Wu that we desire to speak, and in the most respectful and affectionate terms. This is largely because he does not like this any more than we do; but there is a difference. He is a Chinese grandnephew, and a person belonging to us whose indifference to the eternal verities, and his constitutional and chronic inability to observe verbal accuracy, have often and do still expose him justly to charitable comment. But Ots is not Mr. Wu's grandnephew, and it is neither nice nor wise for the Government to allow any foreign representative accredited to it to say he is or otherwise to cast discredit upon him. Because, whatever Americans may think of the object of Mr. Wu's dislike, he is a major general in the Regular Army, and more dear to the Administration than any other inefficient or unsuccessful officer except that inexcusable mistake of Divine Providence known as Sampson.

Mr. Wu would not eat with the Genesee Association in New York, in honor of Ots, and declined its invitation in a letter, blaming the late Viceroy of the Philippines for introducing the Chinese Exclusion act into that stricken country. We admit that Ots was wrong, from his own point of view, because he was ordered to treat the possession as foreign territory, whereas the Exclusion act was a domestic measure, calculated to increase the cost of domestic service on the Pacific Coast. But we are able to attend to our own failures and recalcitrants, and do not need the advice, in such connections, of the pig-tailed natives of the Flowery Kingdom.

Indeed, we need it so little that we hope Mr. McKinley will see his way clear to dispense with it, and also with Mr. Wu. The perturbing news comes that the Nation just smashes of Kansas have fallen upon them themselves. It is stated that the leader himself stopped a most splendid expedition, which, under the auspices of several Topeka preachers and other excited females, was about to start out yesterday to wreck saloons, and, incidentally, the peace of the community. Some of the sisters are sulky and rude to her in consequence. They say that she is a coward, and has been won over to the enemy. Naturally, we do not know what the result may be, but the chances are that the unpleasantness will drive her to Washington, where the mail-censored rumholes on Capitol Hill yawn for her.

A singular instance of the survival of youthful instincts is furnished in the eloquence of ex-Judge Byall, of Findlay, Colo., at the annual meeting of the little heart of his, a miller aged sixty-seven. The naughty children succeeded in reaching the village of Lima, where the nuptial knot was tied, and their parents arrived too late to stop the proceedings. Later, they were taken home and forgiven. Our hearty congratulations are due to Judge Byall as the most equally good Ohio man we have heard of in some time.

Senators were allowed to stay at home and nurse their friends and pet measures last night. The Republicans of the Senate whose interests are not bound up in the proposed subsidy steal made a deal with the Democrats and Mr. Frye was forced to strike his flag. There will not be any more night sessions at present, and the job is regarded as very dead.

#### The Tax Reduction Bills.

The two bills most go to a conference committee for an adjustment of differences, as if the Senate had not been so much in the irreconcilable differences in the two measures have been skillfully framed the idea of Mr. Hale will come and Congress will be adjourned without delay after an agreement is reached. Tax reduction at present promises to be an irreducible dream.

#### No Need for Help.

In view of the fact that the remarkable progress the shipbuilding industry is making in this country, it is unnecessary and unwise for the Navy Department to attempt to acquire a foreign process. This industry needs no outside treatment. Leave it to itself and it will take care of itself exceedingly well. The conditions which are to give this country a great maritime empire of its own are at hand. Subsidies are not needed, and the Ship Subsidy bill should be laid on the table for all time.

#### Where the Profit Lies.

The steamship companies are waiting impatiently for the passage of the Hanna Subsidy bill, both for the sake of the immense Treasury loss and for the sake of forming a great Transportation Trust on the high seas. The bill provides for the construction of a great steamship line, which would be a great boon to the country. The bill provides for the construction of a great steamship line, which would be a great boon to the country.

#### Our Relations With Cuba.

It is a paradox even to the most stupid statesman that this Government cannot very well get Cuba a free hand in the conduct of her foreign relations. We have made ourselves responsible in a way to the United States which is a great deal more than we can afford to do. We have the Monroe Doctrine to maintain; we have the Cuban question to settle; and we have the Cuban question to settle. We have the Cuban question to settle, and we have the Cuban question to settle.

The new corporation has evoked much discussion. Able officers of the army are divided, and acrimoniously so, on the outcome of the corps organization against the old line regimental organization, with its splendid record and regimental esprit. To a great extent the old regimental

#### THE NEW ARMY BILL.

The Army bill, as it has become law, provides for a Lieutenant General, six major generals, and fifteen brigadier generals in the line. Prior to this law the rank of Lieutenant General was only given temporarily to "the senior major general of the line commanding the army," and in the event of his being relieved from command it would have lapsed, and he would have returned to his rank as major general. The selection of Maj. Gen. Nelson A. Miles by the President as Lieutenant General therefore places him permanently at the head of the army, until he is sixty-four years of age, or until he is relieved after thirty years' service. It is said that he was nominated by the President with the distinct understanding that he would apply for retirement within a certain fixed period, in order that the President might reward Major General Otis by placing him at the head of the army before his retirement.

The law increases the number of major generals to six, and the number of brigadier generals to fifteen. The nine staff departments are increased as follows: "Assistant adjutants general, one lieutenant colonel and ten majors; inspectors general, one lieutenant colonel and ten majors; judge advocates general, one lieutenant colonel and ten majors; quartermasters, one lieutenant colonel and ten majors; signal officers, one lieutenant colonel and ten majors; medical officers, one lieutenant colonel and ten majors; chaplains, one lieutenant colonel and ten majors; and adjutants, one lieutenant colonel and ten majors."

The Signal Corps is increased by three majors, nine captains, and twelve first lieutenants, and it is also provided that the President is "authorized to continue in service during the present emergency for duty in the Philippine Islands five volunteer signal officers, with the rank of first lieutenant, and five volunteer signal officers with the rank of second lieutenant."

Section thirteen of the bill provides that on the expiration of service of the President, the President is authorized to fill original vacancies in the grade of captain created by the act in the Quartermaster's and Substantive Departments from officers of the Signal Corps, and from officers of the Ordnance Department, and from officers of the Medical Corps, and from officers of the Adjutant General's Department, and from officers of the Engineer Corps, and from officers of the Cavalry, and from officers of the Artillery, and from officers of the Infantry, and from officers of the Ordnance Department, and from officers of the Medical Corps, and from officers of the Adjutant General's Department, and from officers of the Engineer Corps, and from officers of the Cavalry, and from officers of the Artillery, and from officers of the Infantry, and from officers of the Ordnance Department, and from officers of the Medical Corps, and from officers of the Adjutant General's Department, and from 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